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Message Text

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65
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 AGR-10 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06

SP-02 CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 MMO-04 PER-03

ABF-01 IO-11 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01 /120 W
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R 201441Z JAN 76
FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 501

UNCLAS MONTEVIDEO 0230

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, BAGB, UY
SUBJECT: FY-76 CAP: SECOND QUARTER PROGRESS REPORT

REF: 75 STATE 256075, 75 MONTEVIDEO A-094, 75 STATE A-7008

1. SUMMAY: ALL CAP ACTIONS SCHEDULED FOR SECOND QUARTER HAVE BEEN COMPLETED OR ARE UNDERWAY. CLOSE CONTACTS CONTINUE WITH MEAT PACKING PLANTS WHICH ARE CONSIDERING EXPANSION. CCAG HAS DETERMINED THAT SUBMISSION POST-INITIATED MARKET STUDY (PIMS) FOR FOOD PROCESSING MACHINERY (CAMPAIGN ONE, ACTION TWO) WOULD MORE APPROPRIATELY BE REPLACED BY GENERAL AGRIBUSINESS PROSPECTS REPORT. REDUCTION OF COMMERCIAL SECTION STAFF AND OTHER COMMITMENTS THIS QUARTER REQUIRE RESCHEDULING. NEVERTHELESS, ONE NEW SURVEY CAMPAIGN ACTIONPROPOSED IN EFFORT TO REMAIN FLEXIBLE AND MEET CHANGING CONDITIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES. END SUMMARY.

2. ALL CAP ACTIONS SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION BY DEC 30 WITH ONE EXCEPTION HAVE BEEN FULFILLED (I.E. CAMPAIGN FOUR, ACTIONS ONE AND TWO, CAMPAIGN FIVE, ACTIONS ONE AND TWO, CAMPIGN ONE, ACTION THREE). MEAT PACKING INDUTRY PIMS (CAMPAIGN ONE, ACTION ONE) WILL BE
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3. CCAG CONTINUES TO FOCUS ATTENTION ON GREATLY INCREASED INTEREST AMONG MEAT PACKERS TO EXPAND FACILITIES TO INCLUDE COOKED BEEF, CORNED BEEF AND OTHER LINES. MAJOR PURCHASES ARE EXPECTED AS PLANS MATURE AND FINANCING BECOME AVAILABLE CCAG APPRECIATES RAPID AND HELPFUL USDOC ASSISTANCE (MONTEVIDEO 37, USDOC 543) FOR MOST RECENT VISITS BY POTENTIAL BUYERS.

4. CAMPAIGN ONE, ACTION TWO, CALLED FOR INVESTIGATION OF MARKET INTEREST IN FOOD PROCESSING MACHINERY AND DECISION BY THIRD QUARTER FY-76 IF PIMS IS WARRANTED. INVESTIGAION UNDER THIS ACTION TO ATE HAS LED US TO CONCLUSION THAT TRADE OPPORTUNITIES GREATEST AMONG MEAT AND FISH PROCESSORS FOR WHICH PORJECTS ALREADY SCHEDULED (CAMPAIGN ONE, ACTON ONE, CAPAIGN THREE). FINANCING AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS STILL INHIBIT RAPID EXPANSION OTHER AREAS, HOWEVER, WORLD BANK, IDB AND AID HAVE MADE OR ARE CONSIDERING LOANS TO SUPPORT EXPANSION AGRI-INDUSTRIES.

5. 75 STATE A-7008 REQUESTED THAT POSTS PLACE A HIGH PRIORITY ON AGRIBUSINESS REPORTING. COMMERCIAL ATTACHE AID DIRECTOR AND AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE HAVE CONSTITUTED AN AGRIBUSINESS COMMITTE UNDER AUSPICES CCAG TO DISCUSS AND COORDINATE PLANS. REFAIR REQUESTS AN INITIAL AGRI-BUSINESS REPORT PROVIDING GENERAL INFORMATION OF A BACKGROUND NATURE. CCAG BELIEVES SUCH A REPORT IS LOGICAL PRECURSOR TO PIMS FORMERLY PROPOSED AND RECOM-MENDS AMENDMENT CAMPAIGN ONE, ACTION TWO, AS FOLLOWS: "IN ORDER TO SUPPORT U.S. BUSINESS PARTICIPATION IN AGRIBUSINESS PROJECTS IN URUGUAY THE POST WILL SUBMIT A GENERAL REPORT IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL AREAS FOR AGRI-BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT."

6. ABOLITION OF COMMERCIAL UNIT SECRETARIAL POSITION HAS HAD THE CONSEQUENCES FORESEEN, I.E. REMAINING STAFF FIND THEMSELVES INVOLVED IN PERFORMING TASKS PREVIOUSLY UNDERTAKEN BY SECRETARY TO OBVIUS DETRIMENT TIME AVAIL-ABLE FOR ONGOING CAP PROJECTS AND ROUTINE REPORTING SUCH AS TRANDS REPORT. DELETION OF FOOD PROCESSING PIMS UNCLASSIFIED

WOULDHAVE BEEN REQUIRED IN ANY CASE BECAUSE OF HEAVY WORKLOAD SCHEDULED FOR THIRD QUARTER, PARTICULARLY SUBMISSION OF A DRAFT OBR (CAMPAIGN TWO, ACTION ONE), AND NECESSITY TO REALLOCATE AVAILABLE RESOURCES. FORTUNATELY, MUCH INFORMATION FOR PROPOSED AGRIBUSINESS REPORT IS READILY AVAILABLE PRIMARILY FROM AID DOCU-MENTS RELTIVE TO THAT AGENCY'S RECENT AGRI-INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT LOAN AND WILL BE DRAWN UPON.

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7.AS A RESULT OF A RECENT INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK LOAN OF $7 MILLION, THE STATE WATER WORKS (OSE) IS CONTINUING ITS EXPANSION OF THE COUNTRY'S POTABLE WATER SYSTEM. THE CCAG PROPOSES THE FOLLOWING BE ADDED TO THE CAP: "SURVEY CAMPAIGN, ACTION SIX: THE COMMERCIAL ATTACHE WILL PREPARE A REPORT DESCRIBING TRADE OPPORTUNITIES FOR AMERICAN FIRMS RESULTING FROM OSE'S CONTINUING EXPANSION PROGRAM." THIS PROPOSED REPORT, AS WELL AS THOSE CALLED FOR DURING THE NEXT QUARTER BY SURVEY CAMPAIGN ACTIONS THREE AND FOUR, DO NOT REPRESENT THE MAJOR INVESTMENT OF TIME AND EFFORT REQUIRED BY A PIMS OR BY OUR SCHEDULED OBR.
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